

IC 20-1-1.2

Chapter 1.2. Performance-Based Accreditation System

IC 20-1-1.2-1

"Legal standards" defined

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "legal standards" means Indiana statutes and rules adopted by the board that apply to each school for accreditation.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-2

Establishment of system; schedule for accreditation

Sec. 2. (a) A school in Indiana may be accredited:

- (1) under the performance based accreditation system established by this chapter; or
- (2) by implementing a quality focused approach to school improvement such as the criteria for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for Education or for a national or regional accreditation agency that is recommended by the education roundtable and approved by the board.

(b) The board shall establish the following:

- (1) A performance-based accreditation system for accrediting schools in Indiana under this chapter.
- (2) A procedure for determining whether a school is making progress toward meeting the criteria for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for Education or a national or regional accreditation agency.

(c) The department shall establish a schedule for accrediting schools under this chapter.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.221-1999, SEC.3.

IC 20-1-1.2-3

Accreditation levels

Sec. 3. (a) The board shall establish the following two (2) accreditation levels:

- (1) Full accreditation status.
- (2) Probationary accreditation status.

(b) After the review process described in this chapter has been completed, including the review conducted by the onsite review panel assigned under section 10 of this chapter, if applicable, each school and school corporation shall be accorded either full accreditation status or probationary accreditation status.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.51-1990, SEC.8.

IC 20-1-1.2-4

Full accreditation status

Sec. 4. (a) When all of the schools within a school corporation achieve full accreditation status, the school corporation shall be

accorded a certificate of full accreditation.

(b) If one (1) or more schools in a school corporation are accorded probationary status but the school corporation is in substantial compliance with full accreditation standards, that school corporation shall be accorded full accreditation status.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-5 Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.221-1999, SEC.15.)

IC 20-1-1.2-6

Benchmarks for performance

Sec. 6. The superintendent and board shall determine which of the benchmarks and indicators of performance listed in IC 20-1-21-9 are appropriate benchmarks for performance based accreditation under this chapter.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.19-1992, SEC.4; P.L.38-1993, SEC.4; P.L.340-1995, SEC.44; P.L.2-1996, SEC.259; P.L.34-1996, SEC.2; P.L.221-1999, SEC.4; P.L.14-2000, SEC.47.

IC 20-1-1.2-7

Compliance with legal standards

Sec. 7. The department shall determine whether the school has complied with the following legal standards for accreditation:

- (1) Health and safety requirements.
- (2) Minimum time requirements for school activity.
- (3) Staff-student ratio requirements.
- (4) Curriculum offerings.
- (5) Development and implementation of a staff evaluation plan under IC 20-6.1-9.
- (6) Completion of a school improvement plan that:
 - (A) analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of the school;
 - (B) outlines goals of the school community to which school improvement activities will be directed; and
 - (C) identifies objectives of the school and programs designed to achieve those objectives.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.52-1990, SEC.5; P.L.221-1999, SEC.5; P.L.291-2001, SEC.172.

IC 20-1-1.2-8

Determination of full accreditation; review of school

Sec. 8. (a) If the department determines that:

- (1) a school has complied with all of the legal standards under section 7 of this chapter; and
 - (2) the school's performance has met the expectations for that school in the areas described in section 6 of this chapter;
- the board shall make a determination that the school has acquired full accreditation status.

(b) The next review under this chapter of a school described under

subsection (a) shall be conducted no later than five (5) years after the board's determination of full accreditation.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.221-1999, SEC.6.

IC 20-1-1.2-9

Onsite evaluation of school; publication of information concerning compliance

Sec. 9. (a) If the department verifies that:

(1) a school has not complied with all of the legal standards under section 7 of this chapter; or

(2) the school's performance has not met the expectations for that school in the areas described in section 6 of this chapter;

a review panel of at least three (3) members shall conduct an onsite evaluation of that school in order to make a recommendation to the board as to the accreditation status of that school.

(b) The department may not publish or otherwise make available for public inspection any information concerning a school's compliance with legal standards under section 7 of this chapter, the meeting of performance expectations under section 6 of this chapter, the assignment of an onsite review panel under section 9 of this chapter, or the recommended accreditation status of the school until all onsite reviews have taken place and recommendations to the board concerning the accreditation status of schools have been made.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.51-1990, SEC.9; P.L.221-1999, SEC.7.

IC 20-1-1.2-10

Review panel

Sec. 10. (a) Each review panel must consist of the following:

(1) One (1) staff member from the department.

(2) One (1) classroom teacher.

(3) One (1) individual who is not a classroom teacher, but who is representative of the field of education.

(b) The board shall determine the selection process for the review panels. However, the department shall assign, without board approval, a review panel to each school required to be evaluated under section 9 of this chapter.

(c) The department may require that more than one (1) review panel conduct the onsite evaluation of a school.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.51-1990, SEC.10.

IC 20-1-1.2-11

Areas reviewed during onsite evaluation

Sec. 11. (a) During its onsite evaluation, a review panel shall review the following for a school:

(1) Teaching practices and administrative leadership in instruction.

(2) Parental and community involvement.

(3) Implementation of the ISTEP remediation program under IC 20-10.1-17 and the educational opportunity program for at-risk children.

(4) The homework policy.

(b) In addition to its review under subsection (a), the review panel shall verify compliance with the legal standards for accreditation set out in section 7 of this chapter.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2. Amended by P.L.19-1992, SEC.5; P.L.38-1993, SEC.5; P.L.340-1995, SEC.45; P.L.221-1999, SEC.8.

IC 20-1-1.2-12

Recommendation of review panel

Sec. 12. Upon review of all of the areas described in sections 6 and 11 of this chapter, a review panel shall make a recommendation to the board concerning:

- (1) the accreditation status of the school;
- (2) if applicable, certain recommendations for improvement that the school should consider, including recommendations that the department provide technical assistance to the school; and
- (3) the next date of review for the school.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-13

Determination by board of status of reviewed school

Sec. 13. (a) Upon receipt of a review panel's recommendation, the board shall make one (1) of the following determinations as to the accreditation status of the school:

- (1) Full accreditation status with the next review being conducted five (5) years after the board's determination of full accreditation.
- (2) Full accreditation status with the next review being conducted earlier than five (5) years after the board's determination of full accreditation.
- (3) Probationary accreditation with the next review being conducted one (1) year after the board's determination of probationary accreditation.

(b) A school that does not comply with all of the legal standards may not be determined to have acquired full accreditation status.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-14

Probationary status; duty of governing body of school corporation

Sec. 14. If a school is accorded probationary accreditation status, the governing body of the school corporation shall:

- (1) develop a plan to raise that school's level of accreditation within one (1) year after being accorded probationary status; and
- (2) raise that school's level of accreditation within three (3) years after being accorded probationary status.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-15

Probationary status; failure to make progress

Sec. 15. (a) If a school having probationary status:

(1) fails to make progress; or

(2) at the end of three (3) years has not achieved full accreditation status;

the board shall accord that school corporation probationary accreditation status.

(b) A school corporation on probationary accreditation status shall direct its efforts toward raising the level of accreditation of each of its schools that are on probationary accreditation status to full accreditation status within one (1) year.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-16

Probationary status; recommendations to general assembly

Sec. 16. If a school corporation on probationary accreditation status has not raised the level of accreditation of each of its schools that are on probationary accreditation status to full accreditation status within one (1) year, the department shall submit to the general assembly recommendations concerning the operation and administration of the school corporation and the schools within that school corporation.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-17

Probationary status; appeal; assistance

Sec. 17. (a) If a school or school corporation is accorded probationary accreditation status, the governing body of the school corporation may appeal that determination to the board.

(b) If a school or school corporation is accorded probationary accreditation status, the department shall provide assistance to that school or school corporation to achieve full accreditation status.

(c) If a school is accorded probationary accreditation status, the completion of the school improvement plan under section 7 of this chapter must involve parents, administrators, teachers, and other members of the community.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.

IC 20-1-1.2-18

Rules

Sec. 18. The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to implement this chapter.

As added by P.L.390-1987(ss), SEC.2.